

THE VEITCH FAMILY OF NURSERYMEN

Dave Hill

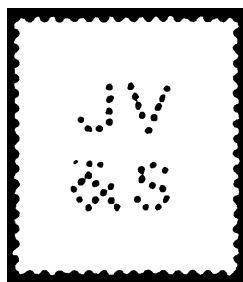
More than mere nurserymen, perhaps even more than horticulturalists, the first Veitch nursery was started by John Veitch in 1780 in Budlake, near Killerton in Devon. In 1832 John and his son James bought land near Exeter for a further nursery. In 1853 James and his son, James Junior, seeing that they needed to be nearer London, opened a nursery in Chelsea. In 1863 the two businesses separated, **Chelsea** trading as **James Veitch & Son** whilst the **Exeter** nursery was run by **Robert Veitch**, a younger brother.



The Veitch's sent many plant hunters abroad, often hunting plants themselves in South America and the Far East. This was dangerous in the 19th century and many family members were short lived. Harry Veitch ran the Chelsea nursery for many years but sold up in 1914 when he retired as there were no family members to take over from him. The Exeter nursery was run by Peter Veitch, Robert's son, and by Peter's daughter, Mildred, until 1969 when failing health forced her to sell.

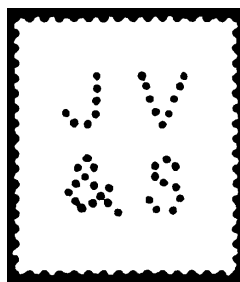
Perfins JV/&S - J8220.01 and J8220.02 and RV - R5610.02 are listed as provisional identities, from date and postmark evidence. I think I put them forward many years ago and am unsure that they have ever been confirmed.

1905 - 1913



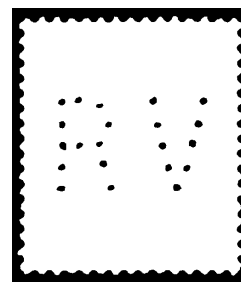
J8220.01

1895 - 1901



J8220.02

1890 - 1895



R5610.02